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MAILED
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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Patent No. 7,100,920 :
Issue Date: September 5, 2006 : ON PETITION
Application No. 10/727,683 :
Filed: December 5, 2003 :
:

This is a decision on the petition under 37 CFR 1.378(c), filed January 24, 2011, to accept the unintentionally delayed payment of a maintenance fee for the above-identified patent.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

This petition expired on September 6, 2010 for failure to pay the 3 ½-year maintenance fee. Since this petition was submitted within twenty-four months after the six-month grace period provide in 37 CFR 1.362(e), the petition was timely filed under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.378(c).

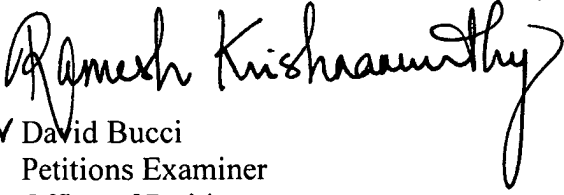
The maintenance fee is hereby accepted and the above-identified patent is reinstated as of the mailing date of this decision.

There is no indication that the person signing the instant petition was ever given a power of attorney or authorization of agent to prosecute the above-identified application. If the person signing the instant petition desires to receive future correspondence regarding the patent, the appropriate power of attorney or authorization of agent must be submitted. While a courtesy copy of this decision is being mailed to the person signing the instant petition, all future correspondence will be directed to the address currently of record until such time as appropriate instructions are received to the contrary.

It is not apparent whether the person signing the statement of unintentional delay was in a position to have first-hand or direct knowledge of the facts and circumstances of the delay at issue. Nevertheless, such statement is being treated as having been made as the result of a reasonable inquiry into the facts and circumstances of such delay. In the event that such inquiry has not been made, petitioner must make such inquiry. If such inquiry

results in the discovery that the delay in paying the maintenance fee under 37 CFR 1.378(c) was intentional, petitioner must notify the Office.

Telephone inquiries relating to this decision should be directed to Robert DeWitty, Petitions Examiner, Office of Petitions (571-272-8427).


for David Bucci
Petitions Examiner
Office of Petitions

cc: Steven Thrasher
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